



## First Dystonia Clinical Fellowship will Enhance Care for Canadians Managing Movement Disorder

**TORONTO, ON - October 23, 2017** – The Dystonia Medical Research Foundation (DMRF) Canada, in partnership with Allergan Canada, is pleased to announce the launch of the first-ever clinical fellowship for movement disorders, with a specialty in dystonia. The Dystonia Fellowship is a one-year grant intended to support the training of exceptionally qualified individuals in preparation for their clinical career in movement disorders, with a focus on dystonia and a special competence in the use of botulinum toxins.

“On behalf of the thousands of Canadians who are suffering from dystonia, DMRF Canada is pleased to be partnering with Allergan Canada to launch this important initiative,” said Stefanie Ince, Executive Director, DMRF Canada. “We know that proper evaluation by a movement disorder neurologist can make a significant difference in terms of the treatment options available to dystonia patients and the corresponding benefit from treatment. This fellowship will encourage new individuals to enter the movement disorder field, and this is critically important for the timely support and care of the dystonia community. We thank Allergan Canada for their partnership and their support of this initiative”, said Ince.

Dystonia is a chronic neurological condition characterized by persistent or sporadic muscle contractions, causing abnormal repetitive movements or postures, at times resembling a tremor. Depending on the severity of the condition, patients are faced with varying degrees of disability or pain.<sup>1</sup> Dystonia affects at least 50 thousand Canadians.<sup>2</sup>

“We’re thrilled to continue demonstrating our support to the Canadian movement disorder community. By working together, we hope to help identify new opportunities to enhance patient care. We know it’s critical to encourage and support the growth of individuals who wish to focus on dystonia research or care. As a collaborative partner, we are proud to support the DMRF Canada in establishing a fellowship for dystonia,” said Dr. Alain Lamontagne, Chief Medical Officer, Allergan Canada.

This is a positive step for the movement disorder community, and dystonia patients. This fellowship will help the succession of qualified professionals who are knowledgeable and passionate about dystonia have the best level of training available.

Applications are to be submitted electronically to DMRF Canada by December 15, 2017. Fellowships will be expected to start in July 2018. For more information, visit [www.dystoniacanada.org/fellowship](http://www.dystoniacanada.org/fellowship).

### **About the Dystonia Medical Research Foundation (DMRF) Canada**

The Dystonia Medical Research Foundation was founded in 1976 by Samuel and Frances Belzberg of Vancouver, after their daughter was diagnosed with generalized dystonia. The mission of the DMRF Canada is to advance research for more treatments and ultimately a cure; to promote awareness and education; and to support the needs and well being of affected individuals and families. DMRF Canada is a registered non-profit Canadian charity governed by a volunteer [Board of Directors](#).

### **About Allergan plc**

Allergan plc (NYSE: AGN), headquartered in Dublin, Ireland, is a bold, global pharmaceutical company and a leader in a new industry model – Growth Pharma. Allergan is focused on developing, manufacturing and commercializing branded pharmaceutical, device, biologic, surgical and regenerative medicine products for patients around the world. Allergan markets a portfolio of leading brands and best-in-class products for the central nervous system, eye care, medical aesthetics and dermatology, gastroenterology, women's health, urology and anti-infective therapeutic categories. Allergan is an industry leader in Open Science, a model of research and development, which defines our approach to identifying and developing game-changing ideas and innovation for better patient care. With this approach, Allergan has built one of the broadest development pipelines in the pharmaceutical industry with 65+ mid-to-late stage pipeline programs currently in development. Allergan's success is powered by our more than 18,000 global colleagues' commitment to being Bold for Life. Together, we build bridges, power ideas, act fast and drive results for our customers and patients around the world by always doing what is right. With commercial operations in approximately 100 countries, Allergan is committed to working with physicians, healthcare providers and patients to deliver innovative and meaningful treatments that help people around the world live longer, healthier lives every day. For more information, visit Allergan's website at [Allergan.ca](http://Allergan.ca)

-30-

### **References:**

[www.dystoniacanada.org](http://www.dystoniacanada.org)

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